

(2) The project must provide on an annual basis, upon request and in a format acceptable to the Secretary, information in the aggregate regarding the employment of its graduates including place of employment.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 0915-0060)

[37 FR 20543, Sept. 30, 1972, as amended at 45 FR 41420, June 19, 1980; 52 FR 24160, June 29, 1987; 57 FR 45736, Oct. 5, 1992]

§ 57.706 Evaluation of applications.

(a) As required by section 798(a) of the Act, each application for a grant under this subpart shall be submitted to a peer review group, composed principally of non-Federal experts, for an evaluation of the merits of the proposals made in the application. The Secretary may not approve such an application unless a peer review group has recommended the application for approval. The Secretary will approve or disapprove all applications filed in accordance with § 57.704, taking into consideration:

(1) The degree to which the project plan adequately provides for meeting the requirements set forth in § 57.705 and 42 CFR 57.803;

(2) The potential effectiveness of the project in carrying out the purposes of section 750 of the Act and this subpart;

(3) The capability of the applicant to carry out the proposed project;

(4) The local, regional, and national needs the project proposes to serve;

(5) The adequacy of the project's plan for placing graduates in health professional shortage areas;

(6) The soundness of the fiscal plan for assuring effective use of grant funds;

(7) The potential of the project to continue on a self-sustaining basis after the period of grant support; and

(8) The adequacy of the project's plan to develop and use methods designed to attract and maintain minority and disadvantaged students to train as physician assistants.

(b) In determining the funding of applications approved under paragraph (a) of this section, the Secretary will consider any special factors relating to national needs as the Secretary may

from time to time announce in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

[44 FR 36178, June 21, 1979, as amended at 52 FR 24160, June 29, 1987; 53 FR 14792, Apr. 26, 1988; 57 FR 45736, Oct. 5, 1992; 61 FR 6124, Feb. 16, 1996]

§ 57.707 Grant award.

(a) *General.* (1) Within the limits of funds available for this purpose, the Secretary may award grants to those applicants whose projects will, in his or her judgment best promote the purposes of section 750 of the Act as determined in accordance with § 57.706.

(2) The notice of grant award specifies the length of time the Secretary intends to support the project without requiring the project to recompetes for funds. This period, called the project period, will not exceed 5 years.

(3) Neither the approval of any project nor any grant award shall commit or obligate the United States in any way to make any additional, supplemental, continuation, or other award with respect to any approved project or portion of an approved project. For continuation support, grantees must make separate application at such times and in such a form as the Secretary may prescribe.

(b) The Secretary will determine the amount of any award on the basis of his or her estimate of the sum necessary for the cost (including both direct and indirect costs) of the project.

(c) Generally, the grant will initially be funded for 1 year, and subsequent continuation awards will also be for 1 year at a time. Decisions regarding continuation awards and the funding levels of these awards will be made after consideration of such factors as the grantee's progress and management practices, existence of legislative authority, and the availability of funds. In all cases, continuation awards require a determination by the Secretary that continued funding is in the best interest of the Federal Government.

[44 FR 36178, June 21, 1979, as amended at 57 FR 45736, Oct. 5, 1992; 61 FR 6124, Feb. 16, 1996]

§ 57.708 Grant payments.

The Secretary will from time to time make payments to a grantee of all or a